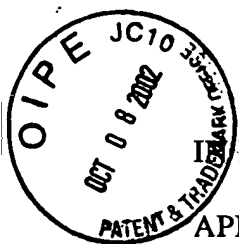


## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



RE:

APPLICATION OF

: Li Xing and Robert C. Glen

TITLE

: Method For Accurately Estimating  $P_{K_a}$  Of  
Molecules Using Atom Type Definitions And  
Partial Least Squares

SERIAL NO.

: 09/626,099

FILING DATE

: July 26, 1999

ART UNIT

: 1631

EXAMINER

: Marianne P. Allen

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

: 3017-43

H10  
Plunkett  
10/15/02

TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 8, 2002**Remarks**

Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's withdrawal of prior rejections under 35 USC 101 and 35 USC 103(a). The Examiner has noted that the SPL software script appendix referenced in the specification is not present in the application. Applicants understand the examiner's comment to mean that the appendix is not present in the application papers before the examiner. Applicants submitted the software appendix at the time of filing the application. The inclusion of the appendix is referenced both in the cover letter accompanying the application and in the acknowledgement postcard returned from the

**RECEIVED**

OCT 15 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900